

MINUTES

EAU CLAIRE CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

City Council Chamber

4:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Council President Weld called the meeting to order. The following Council Members were present: Emily Anderson, Emily Berge, Jill Christopherson, Kate Felton, Jeremy Gragert, Charles Johnson, Roderick Jones, Joshua Miller, Terry Weld and Andrew Werthmann.

The following Council Member was absent: Larry Mboga

CONSENT AGENDA

The Council considered a resolution adopting the Consent Agenda for the following items of routine business on Tuesday, January 24, 2023:

- Adopting the Consent Agenda.
- Approving the Minutes of the January 10, 2023 Council Legislative Session.
- Granting new bartender licenses.
- Preliminary resolution declaring the City's intention to exercise its special assessment powers under Section 66.0703, Wisconsin Statutes, for street, utility, and sidewalk improvements, and directing the City Clerk to give notice of a hearing scheduled for February 27, 2023, on the following streets:
 - Menomonie Street, Carson Park Drive to Tenth Avenue (23-105);
 - Fourth Street, Platt Street to Cedar Street (23-110);
 - McKinley Avenue, Park Avenue to State Street (23-116);
 - Roosevelt Avenue, Park Avenue to State Street (23-117);
 - Meadow Lane, Golf Road to Rudolph Road (23-118);
 - Rudolph Road, Meadow Lane to Golf Road (23-119).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Werthmann and seconded by Council Member Jones "to adopt the consent resolution." Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

PROCLAMATIONS

President Weld read a proclamation that proclaimed February 4, 2023 as Transit Equity Day to commemorate the birthday of Rosa Parks and urge everyone in Eau Claire to remember and celebrate the invaluable work of Rosa Parks and continue to find means to create conditions for all people to thrive and proactively address disparities in health, social and economic prosperity.

President Weld read a proclamation that recognized February 2023 to be Black History Month and encourage all people to observe this month with appropriate programs, activities, and reflection and to continue to work to create a world that is more just, equitable and prosperous for all.

CHIPPEWA VALLEY MUSEUM AGREEMENT

The City Council considered a resolution approving the transfer and assignment of lease agreements with the Wisconsin Logging Museum and the Chippewa Valley Museum to Eau Claire Association of Museums, Inc. d/b/a Chippewa Valley Museum. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Felton “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

ANNUAL WORK PLANS

The City Council considered a resolution approving the Sustainability Advisory Committee’s 2023 Annual Work Plan. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Miller and seconded by Council Member Anderson “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a resolution approving the Housing Opportunities Commission 2023 Annual Work Plan. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Berge and seconded by Council Member Christopherson “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

ALLEY, STREET, & UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS

The City Council considered a resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for improvements on the following alleys:

- Alley East of Putnam Street, Birch Street to Omaha Street (23-501);
- Alley East of Cochrane Street, Birch Street to Omaha Street (23-502);
- Alley East of Balcom Street, Omaha Street to North End (23-503);
- Alley East of Pershing Street, Addison Avenue to Oak Park Avenue (23-504)
- Mercury Avenue, Eddy Lane to South End (23-505).

Thereupon Council member Werthmann removed Alley East of Pershing Street, Addison Avenue to Oak Park Avenue (23-504) to be voted on separately. No objection was voiced and the agenda item was separated. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Johnson and seconded by Council Member Werthmann “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

Thereupon the City Council considered approving the project and levying special assessments for improvements on the following alley: Alley East of Pershing Street, Addison Avenue to Oak Park Avenue (23-504).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Werthmann and seconded by Council Member Felton “to amend the resolution” to use gravel instead of paving the alley while still delineating the public right of way. A vote was then taken “to adopt the resolution” as amended. Said motion failed by the following vote:

Aye: Council Members Anderson, Felton, and Werthmann.

Nay: Council Members Berge, Christopherson, Gragert, Johnson, Jones, Miller and Weld.

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Jones and seconded by Council Member Gragert “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote

The City Council considered a resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for street and utility improvements on the following streets:

- Fairfax Street, S. Hastings Way to Highland Avenue (23-101);
- South Hastings Way Frontage Road East, Pine Lodge Road to 3100 Feet East (23-102);
- Fairfax Street, Arthur Street to Mitscher Avenue (23-301);
- N. Hastings Place, 500 Feet West of Pine Street to Pine Street (23-302).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Felton and seconded by Council Member Miller “to adopt the resolution.” Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Werthmann to: remove Fairfax Street, S. Hastings Way to Highland Avenue (23-101) and Fairfax Street, Arthur Street to Mitscher Avenue (23-301) for separate consideration. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Werthmann “to amend the resolution” for Fairfax Street, S. Hastings Way to Highland Avenue (23-101) as the following by adding sharrow pavement markings for northbound bicyclists as well as a bike lane for south bound bicyclists, and to adjust lane widths to accommodate those changes. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Anderson “to amend the resolution” by adding a curb cut across Fairfax Street to the sidewalk on the south side of Arthur Street. Said motion failed by the following vote:

Aye: Council Members Berge, Gragert, and Werthmann

Nay: Council Members Anderson, Christopherson, Felton, Johnson, Jones, Miller, and Weld

Thereupon the original resolution passed unanimously.

SIDEWALK REPAIR

The City Council considered a resolution ordering sidewalk to be repaired in accordance with Wisconsin Statute s. 66.0907 on Fairfax Street, Arthur Street to Mitscher Avenue (23-301).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Berge “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

ALLEY VACATION

The City Council considered a resolution authorizing the vacation of the Alley North of E. Grand Avenue from Westerly Line of Lot 1 Block 36 to the Easterly End of the Alley. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Christopherson and seconded by Council Member Johnson “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

UTILITY EASEMENT

The City Council considered a resolution releasing the utility easements within the Alley North of E. Grand Avenue from Westerly Line of Lot 1 Block 36 to the Easterly End of the Alley. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Werthmann and seconded by Council Member Jones “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

VIBRANT SPACES GRANT

The City Council considered a resolution authorizing City staff to apply for the Vibrant Spaces grant program piloted by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, for up to \$50,000 intended to enhance use the use of the Phoenix Park south lawn. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Felton “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

NO MOW MAY

The Council considered an ordinance Amend Chapter 8.28 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Eau Claire entitled “Weeds, Yards, and Lawn.” Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Miller and seconded by Council Member Anderson “to adopt the ordinance.” Said motion passed by the following vote:

Aye: Council Members Anderson, Berge, Christopherson, Felton, Gragert, Johnson, Miller, and Werthmann.

Nay: Council Members Jones and Weld.

OAKWOOD HILLS PARKWAY

The Council considered an ordinance to rezone property from C-2P to R-3P located at Cypress Street and Oakwood Hills Parkway for a multi-family residential project (Z-1720-23).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Berge and seconded by Council Member Christopherson “to adopt the ordinance.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

STUDY SESSION

Study Session on Zoning Code Rewrite.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned without objection.

Adjournment: Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Time: 7:18 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/Terry L. Weld
Council President

/s/ Nicholas L. Koerner
City Clerk